AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Please replace the sequence listing in the English translation of the application with the copy attached hereto.

In the specification at page 1, after the title and before line 3, please insert the following:

RELATED APPLICATIONS

This application is a national stage application (under 35 U.S.C. 371) of PCT/EP2004/010939 filed September 30, 2004 which claims benefit to German application 103 45 772.0 filed October 1, 2003.

In the specification at page 45 line 34, please replace the paragraph starting with "Because of the break" with the following amended paragraph:

Because of the break point, the sequence FVVDGGYTAQ (cf. V8-RP Fr.7) (SEQ ID NO: 12) presumably represents the C terminus. Nucleic acid sequences (primers Mke338 and 339), which were used as follows for cloning the dehydrogenase gene by means of PCR amplification performed on Lu10288 chromosomal DNA (protocol, see above), were deduced from this sequence and from the N-terminal amino acid sequence (SEQ ID NO. 1) while taking account of the Lactobacillus brevis codon usage.

In the specification at page 46 line 2, please replace the Table starting with "Primer" with the following amended Table adding sequence identifiers (underlining in sequence should remain underlined):

Primer No.	Sequence (5′-3′)	Position
Mke338 (SEQ ID NO: 7)	GGGAATTCCATATGTCTAACCGTTTGG	N-term. primer (NdeI)
Mke339 (SEQ ID NO: 8)	CGTAGGGAAGCTTATTGAGCAGTGTAGCC	C-term. primer (HindIII)

2

In the specification at page 48 line 7, please replace the paragraph starting with "The following" with the following amended paragraph:

The following amino acid sequence was obtained from the protein purification described in Example 6 after once again determining the N-terminal sequence by means of Edmann sequencing:

(S,G or T)(T or P)TSNALVTGGSRGIGAA (SEQ ID NO: 13)

The following additional amino acid sequence was obtained following tryptic digestion and Edmann sequencing of the peptides:

IGVNSINPG (SEQ ID NO: 14)

In the specification at page 48 line 26, please replace the Table starting with "Primer" with the following amended Table adding sequence identifiers (underlining in sequence should remain underlined):

Primer No.	Sequence (5′-3′)	Position
Mke366 (SEQ ID NO: 9)	ACGACGACGAGCAACGCBCTBGTBACGG	N term. primer
Mke367 (SEQ ID NO: 10)	ACGACGACGTCGAACGCBCTBGTBACGG	N term. primer
Mke374 (SEQ ID NO: 11)	GCCGGGGTTGATSSWGTTSACGCCGAT	C term. primer